

like the rise of anti-Asian violence and hate.

Over the past 2 years, I have been greatly alarmed and concerned by what I have seen and heard from businessowners, restaurant owners, teachers, parents, and young people in my district and across the country.

To honor the celebration of the Lunar New Year, I have cosponsored legislation led by my colleague GRACE MENG to make Lunar New Year a Federal holiday in the U.S.

I want to wish everyone warm wishes of health, success, and happiness in the years ahead. Though many were not able to gather in person with their families to celebrate this week, we continue to forge ahead in our recovery from the pandemic.

FENTANYL-RELATED DEATHS ARE RISING

(Mr. OBERNOLTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today deeply alarmed by the increase in fentanyl-related deaths in my district.

According to the San Bernardino County sheriff, there were over 100 fentanyl-related incidents in my district in the last year, resulting in the death of nearly 100 of my constituents. In fact, Madam Speaker, in the last 3 years, fentanyl-related deaths in my community have increased over 600 percent. According to the sheriff, this is a direct result of the trafficking of fentanyl across our southern border with Mexico.

Last year the Inland Empire regional drug task force seized over 600 pounds of fentanyl, and they estimate the majority of that originated in Mexico.

Madam Speaker, this is a direct result of our failure to secure our southern border and the changes in Federal policy as relates to the southern border that have been enacted in the last year.

Madam Speaker, we must stop this trafficking of fentanyl across the border and protect our community by securing our southern border.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE ESTEBAN TORRES

(Ms. SÁNCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of the late Congressman Esteban Torres, a dedicated public servant, trailblazer for Latino political power, and a champion for the working class.

Congressman Esteban Torres dedicated his life to serving his community, early on as a labor leader and eventually in Congress and the White House.

He was among the first Latinos elected to Congress, paving the way for in-

creased representation across all levels of government.

As a Member of this body, Congressman Torres proudly represented the community in which he was raised and much of the community that I am proud to serve today.

He fought with integrity for the rights of immigrants, environmental justice, and economic empowerment.

His legacy will live on in the communities he represented and in the hearts that he touched.

I send my sincere condolences to his family and all who knew him.

OUR NATIONAL DEBT SHOULD SCARE US ALL

(Mr. FEENSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today as our national debt has reached the \$30 trillion marker for the first time in our Nation's history. This enormous figure should scare us all.

Since 1990, our national debt has grown tenfold, and there is no indication that \$30 trillion is the ceiling.

In Iowa, I helped pass the State law that rightfully requires that we spend no more than 99 percent of the money we take in, creating a balanced budget each year.

This is exactly what we should be doing in our Federal Government. We cannot continue to print money, increase our debt, and ask Iowans to foot the bill.

As a strong fiscal hawk, I will continue to fight against the wasteful pork-barrel spending that fuels inflation, raises taxes, and increases the cost of living on every family.

This is exactly what Iowans expect from me, and I plan to deliver.

ATTEMPTS TO OVERTURN ELECTION SHOULD BE PUNISHED

(Mr. POCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, the attempted insurrection of our government on January 6 last year is a stain that will forever live on our country, but equally dirty were the other attempts to illegally overturn our November 2020 elections, including the shady Trump campaign efforts to place false electors in seven States, including my home State of Wisconsin.

Violent attacks on Capitol Police and breaking into the U.S. Capitol are very visual scenes of the illegal schemes, but we cannot let the more stealthy, yet very strategic, plots of trying to place illegal electors to overturn the will of the voters in swing States go by unnoticed or unpunished.

Just yesterday The New York Times released a memo by the Trump campaign written a month and a half prior to January 6 setting up the case to in-

stall false electors in Wisconsin and six other States.

The problem with these schemes was it also needed complicity from then-Vice President Mike Pence, who chose his country over his party and didn't illegally overturn the election as the Trump campaign wanted.

Those involved with this illegal attack on our Republic should be investigated and held accountable by both the January 6th Select Committee as well as the U.S. Department of Justice. Forged documents, false claims, and other illegal actions are crimes and are no different than the violent attack on the Capitol Building itself. And for that, our Nation deserves justice.

REMEMBERING JOHN THOMAS LONG

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend John Thomas Long. We all knew him as Tom. You know, I got a chance to meet Tom Long through my former bosses, my former direct boss, Craig Roberts, and my big boss at the time, a guy named John Shimkus, who used to serve in this Chamber.

Tom was a friend to them, and he immediately became a friend to me. Tom was somebody who was a giant in the legal community in and around the metro east area of Illinois. He served as a law clerk for the Department of Justice. He was the CEO of Argosy Gaming. He was a member of the White House advance team. He was a delegate to the 1988 Republican Convention, but I met him when he was the Madison County Republican Party chairman.

Tom was a guy who was active all throughout his community, but what he was most active in doing was loving his family and making sure his family was his highest priority.

Tom passed away just this past week, and my heartfelt prayers and thoughts go out to his wife, Robin, and his three daughters: Margaret, Erin, and Emma.

Madison County, Illinois, and Illinois and this country lost a giant in Tom Long. He will be missed. May God rest his soul.

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MAKING CRITICAL INVESTMENTS IN AMERICA'S FUTURE

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the America COMPETES Act, which includes two of my amendments.

This bill includes important provisions that enhance our ability to attract the best talent from around the world, such as scientists and engineers

with doctoral degrees. My amendment would extend this program to STEM graduates with master's degrees who work in fields that are critical to our national and economic security.

The bill also includes funding for scholarships for low-income Americans to study in the STEM fields.

The bill also includes my amendment to ensure our Nation's HBCUs, Tribal colleges and universities, and other minority-serving institutions or active members of Manufacturing USA institutes.

These and other provisions in the America COMPETES Act will help us create more jobs, sharpen our technological edge, and make critical investments in our future.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL SEES HIS SHADOW

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, yesterday was a big day in the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

Early in the morning, tens of thousands of spectators gathered at Gobbler's Knob in Jefferson County to await the weather prediction from Pennsylvania's most famous groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil.

For over 120 years, our furry friend has been predicting our winter weather. This tradition stems from Pennsylvania's strong German heritage. Legend has it that if Phil sees his shadow, it is an omen of 6 more weeks of winter. If not, we know spring is just around the corner.

Groundhog Day is an unusual event full of traditions and celebrations. Crowds begin to gather the night before and wake Phil up by chanting his name in the early hours of the morning on February 2. As our weather predictor extraordinaire emerges from his burrow, the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club Inner Circle president translates Phil's prediction and relays the message to the crowd.

Records of our meteorologist rodent date back to 1887, with the first story appearing in the Punxsutawney Spirit. In the years since, Phil has predicted a longer winter 105 times and an early spring only 20 times.

Our seer of seers saw his shadow, thus predicting 6 more weeks of cold and snowy weather.

Madam Speaker, let's keep those winter layers close by. Happy Groundhog Day.

RACING TO THE BOTTOM

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, for generations, Americans

and Canadians have owned homes on either side of the border, making many of our citizens neighbors in every sense of the word.

The pandemic has hurt the connections between our two countries, often making it difficult for citizens to visit their properties.

Recently, the Canadian Government proposed a 1 percent tax on residential real estate owned by non-Canadians. We believe this tax is not just an unfair fine on good neighbors but a violation of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and international tax law.

We are working with the Biden administration to advocate on behalf of Americans and urge Canada to reject this proposal. Its adoption could lead to a race to the bottom for both of our countries.

HONORING ANTHONY SALAS

(Mr. GONZALES of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of El Paso native Special Agent Anthony Salas.

Anthony was with the DPS for 9 years. Prior to that, Anthony served in the Marines. He was a true patriot.

Anthony sadly passed away on January 22. He is survived by his wife, Lizzett, and his three children: Alessandra, Isabella, and Luke.

Anthony was a special operations group operator involved in a traffic crash during the arrest of six migrants in Eagle Pass. Maverick County sadly has become the epicenter of the border crisis.

Agents put their lives on the line every single day. My heart goes out to his family, and America is grateful for his service.

REGAINING AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE IN CHIPS MANUFACTURING

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the America COMPETES Act.

No piece of legislation is more important to this Nation's future. It is about our national security. It is about our economic well-being.

This bill is about regaining our independence in semiconductor chip manufacturing.

This bill is about keeping our factories open and about American jobs.

The America COMPETES Act also includes my legislation, the HOPR Act, that says uniforms worn by our front-line DHS personnel must be made in America by Americans.

Let's get busy and remind the rest of the world what made in America is all about. It is about making the best.

I urge my colleagues to support the America COMPETES Act.

AMERICA FIRST REEMERGING

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, the left is trying to block America First warriors from appearing on the ballot in 2024, and their path to victory begins or ends with me.

They are after the American people, but MAGA fighters in Congress are in the way.

The Washington elites are panicked. Their savior Joe Biden is a withering, blundering failure. They feel the birth pangs of America First reemergence.

What is their solution, Madam Speaker, to stop us patriots from returning to office? Well, they filed a challenge to disenfranchise voters across the Nation and block America First candidates from appearing on the ballot. And they started with me.

I promise you, they will fail.

But their efforts and the deep state's work to shut down Trump and his supporters will ramp up. Watch what happens to the January 6 prisoners. They will become a nationwide template for what the regime will do to all of us.

MAGA fighters in Congress are in the way of their agenda, so they have to come for us first.

But to MAGA patriots across the Nation, pay attention. If they take us down, they will come for you next.

But take hope. God and the people are on our side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING ALTON ADAMS, SR.

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to honor Virgin Islander Alton Adams, Sr., and express my gratitude to the U.S. Navy for the creation of the Alton Augustus Adams Sr. Award for Emerging Composers.

Adams, born in 1889 in the Virgin Islands, was the first Black bandmaster of the U.S. Navy and led an all-Black Navy band during a period of racial segregation.

Adams played the flute and piccolo and composed songs such as "The Governor's Own" and "The Virgin Islands March." In 1924, Adams toured the Nation with his band and won the esteem of fellow bandmasters, but his nomination for membership in the American Bandmasters Association was denied in 1936. Nearly 70 years later, he received the honor, in 2006, and has been recognized for his contributions.

Composers recognizing the work of rising composers whose work reflects the legacy of this leader can receive the Alton Augustus Adams Sr. Award for Emerging Composers.

I thank the U.S. Navy, and I thank Alton Adams. Have a blessed Black History Month.